



State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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March 1, 1996

TO: Minerals File

FROM: Tom Munson, Reclamation Specialist 

RE: Site Inspection, Little Spot #2 and Black Spot, David Penney Mine, S/027/024, Millard County, Utah

Date of Inspection: February 21, 1996
Time of Inspection: 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Conditions: Sunny and windy
Participants: David Penney, Operator; Wayne Hedberg, Tom Munson, DOGM

Purpose of Inspection: To inspect disturbance at obsidian mine sites

Little Spot #2

The first stop of the day was Little Spot #2. At this site there were three disturbed sites which have been mined for obsidian. One site is presently being actively mined by Mr. Penney. The most northerly site consisted of a pit in the general shape of a 'T' and was approximately 35 feet or greater in depth. The pit itself was surrounded by waste material and there is a sorting stockpile where material from the pit is brought out and hand sorted after being spread out across the area. In addition to this area there is a loading area where equipment such as semi-trucks can park. A pioneered road about a quarter of a mile in length accessed the site from the bottom and top of the quarry. The pit bottom is undermining the highwall and a large amount of overburden will have to be removed to expand the pit much further.

The second area was apparently previously mined by Mr. Paul Lamoreaux. The disturbance is approximately 20 feet wide by 100 feet long with no major pit in place but a small, less than 10 foot highwall still remains. Mr. Penney stated he doubted he would re-enter this pit.

The third pit area is a trench created by Mr. Penney, approximately 14-20 feet deep by 15-20 feet wide and 75 feet long. This pit was not active at the time of our inspection.

The Little Spot site is mainly being mined for small snowflake obsidian. Several photos were taken of these three sites.



Black Spot

The first area had a total of four small pits, three of which were below the ridge line. An old pit was noted on top of the ridge associated with previous mining conducted by Mr. Oertle. It had been filled in by Mr. Penney but still needed some smoothing of dirt and wasterock piles. These areas were located in the southeast 1/4 of the southwest 1/4 of section 11, Township 24 South, Range 9 West.

A fifth pit was located on a small adjacent ridge in the northeast 1/4 of the northwest 1/4 of section 14, Township 24 South, Range 9 West. It consisted of a small pit with a significant overhang, but this overhang was considered stable by Mr. Penney. Mr. Penney informed us that he was having trouble getting material out of the pit because he could not easily loosen and remove the overhanging material with his mining equipment.

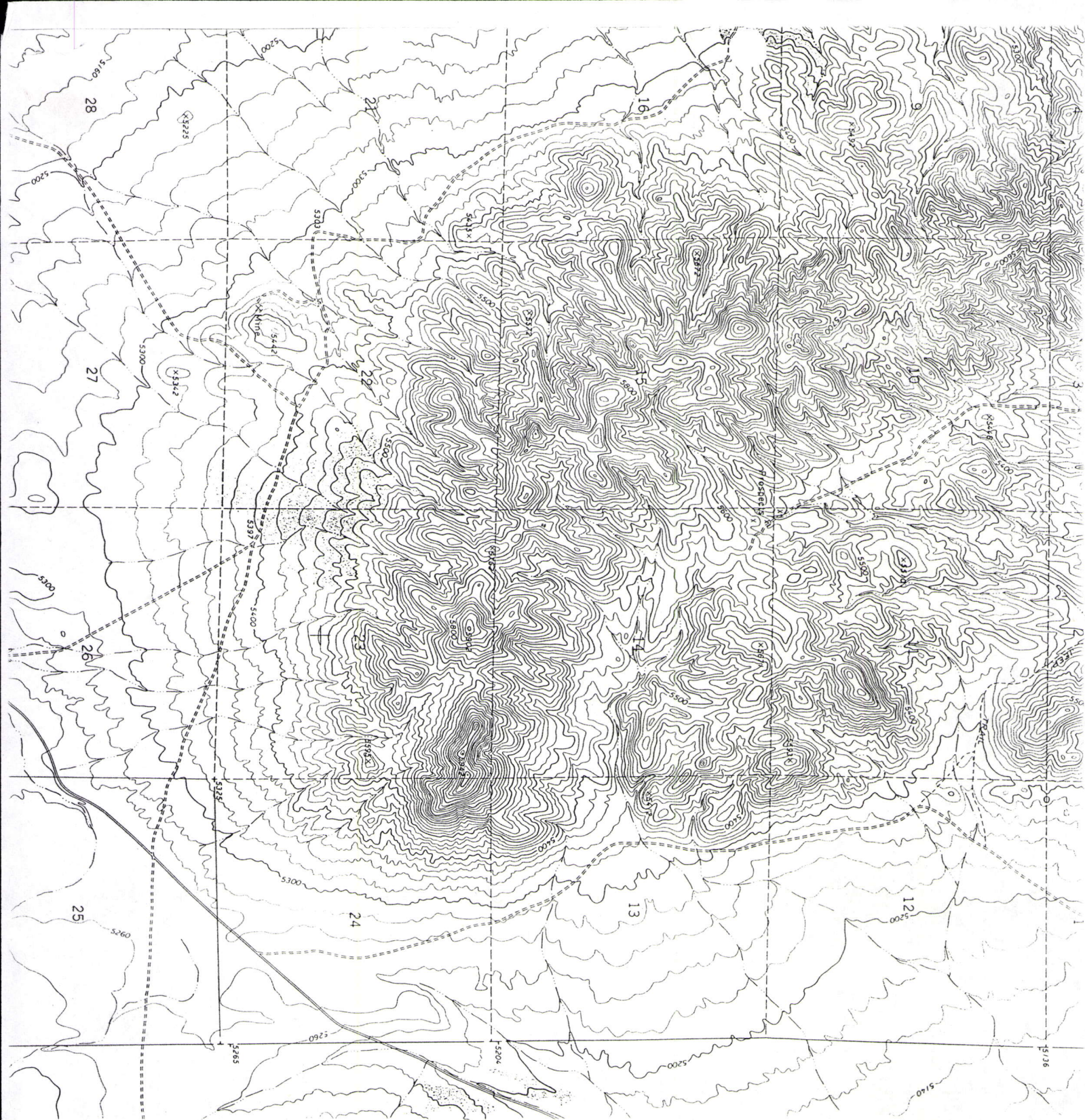
Proposed site on state land

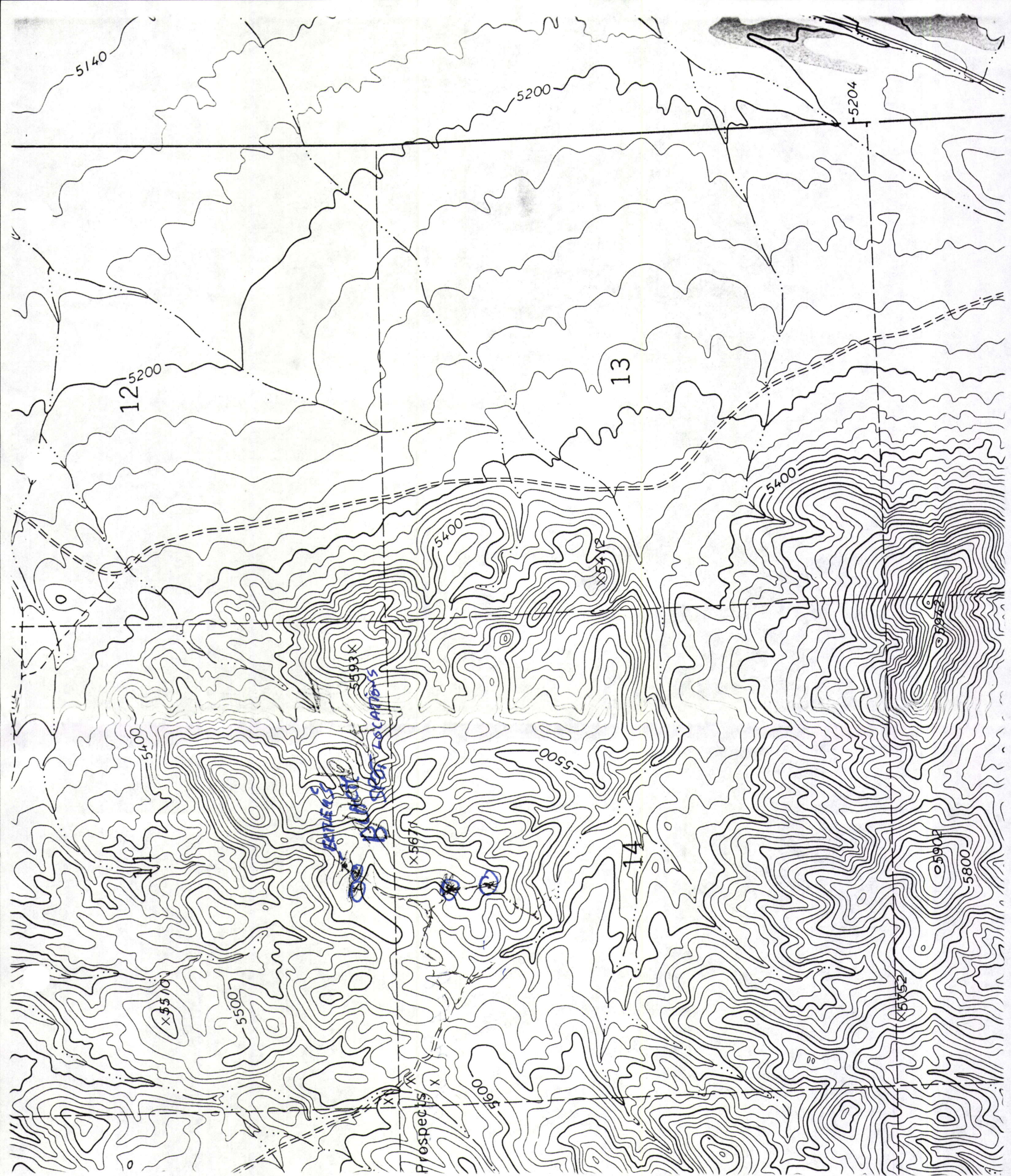
Mr. Penney took us to a proposed future disturbance on State section 2, Township 24 South, Range 9 West. The site was located on the border of the southeast 1/4 and the northeast 1/4 of section 2. We informed him of his bonding requirements with the School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration (SITLA) and that he would have to obtain a lease from them before he could mine. We also visited a site in the southeast 1/4 of section 2 which was supposedly mined and abandoned by Paul Lamoreaux, according to Mr. Penney. The pit found there was 100-150 feet long, 20-25 feet deep and 14-20 feet wide. Mr. Penney made a comment about Mr. Lamoreaux's "trademark" of leaving @ two gallon blue plastic hydraulic oil containers all over the place because his mining equipment leaked oil so bad. We observed a number of these discarded oil containers in and around the pit area.

We returned to the Little Spot site and dropped off Mr. Penney before leaving the area. It was starting to rain as we left the site.

Mr. Penney had a semi-tractor and flatbed trailer loaded with @20+ tons of boxed obsidian ready for transport back to Beaver.

jb
cc: Sheri Wyson, BLM, Warm Springs RA
Will Stokes, SITLA





Black Spot
Locations 3/96

BLACK SPOT
LOCATIONS 3/96 THE INSPECTION

